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TO: Examiner Sin J. Lee
USPTO - Group Art Unit 1752TELEPHONE: (703) 305-0504
FAX: (703) 872-9613**MESSAGE**

Dear Examiner Lee,

This correspondence is in relation to 09/587,813.

Attached is a proposed response to the final rejection issued 08/20/02. We would like to ascertain whether the claim amendments will be entered, or whether it will be necessary to file an RCE.

Thank you,



Sean Mahoney (Reg. No. 51,984)

*I told him
that
there are
at least several
instances
where
new issue
that require
further
or further consideration
arise.*

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MARTYN LOTT et al.	Examiner: Lee, Sin J.
Serial No.: 09/587,813	Group Art Unit: 1752
Filed: June 6, 2000	
For: ARTICLE HAVING IMAGABLE COATINGS	Docket No. 58575-278026

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Jolene M. Alger

PROPOSED AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

This paper is responsive to the outstanding Final Office Action mailed August 20, 2002. It is believed that this Amendment After Final places the application in condition for allowance, or in better condition for appeal, and entry of this response is respectfully requested. Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 29, 38 and 39.

Please amend claims 1, 6, 8-10, 12, 14-21, 26-28, 31, 33-37, and 40 as follows:

1. (Three times amended) A method of treating a precursor, the precursor comprising a substrate and an imageable coating on the substrate, the imageable coating comprising a polymeric composition, the method comprising the step of heat-treating the precursor under conditions which inhibit the removal of moisture from substantially the entire surface area of the imageable coating, wherein heat-treating includes holding the precursor at a temperature of about 40° C or above for at least 12 hours.